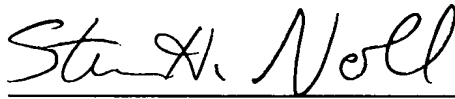


before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371. Accordingly,  
entry of these amendments before examination on the merits is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven H. Noll (reg. no. 28,982)

Schiff Hardin & Waite

Patent Department

6600 Sears Tower

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: 312-258-5785

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT